

DETAILED ACTION

1. The appeal received on 07/10/2009 has been considered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1,28,36, and 37 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1,28,36, and 37 distinguish over the prior art of record in that the Applicant specifically claims a method of administering lottery wagering on a phased competition in which the winning lottery numbers are determined by the outcome of a competition involving multiple participants, wherein wagers including picking a number from of a group of numbers that are a subset of a set of available lottery numbers and randomly associating the multiple participants in the competition with the numbers in the set of available lottery numbers. The teaching of the Applicant's claims are different from the prior art in that the prior art do not teach the limitation of the wagerers not knowing which participants of the multiple participants are associated with the picked numbers when they are picked.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adetokunbo O. Torimiro whose telephone number is (571) 270-1345. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8am - 4pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hotaling can be reached on (571) 272-4437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. O. T./

Examiner, Art Unit 3714

/John M Hotaling II/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3714